



Series: Genesis

Passage: Genesis 33 and 34

Title: Reconciliation & Revenge

Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper, 4/23/2023

Discussion Starter – What did you learn about the role of reconciliation and revenge as a response to broken relationships? What other responses are sometimes taken? How does God desire for us to deal with these difficult situations?

Read Genesis 33:1-16

1. What was the source and history of the division between Jacob and Esau?
2. What was Jacob's goal and plan prior to his upcoming meeting with Esau?
3. Define the difference between a peacemaker and a peacekeeper.
 - a. *What steps must be taken to restore a broken relationship? What opportunity did Jacob miss in his initial meeting with Esau?*
 - b. *How has God equipped us to be peacemakers? (2 Cor 5:17-21)*
 - c. *What does God expect from us in this area? (Matthew 5:9)*

Read Genesis 33:17-20

4. Where did God call for Jacob to settle, (Gen 28:19-22)? How far is Succoth from Bethel?
5. What problems arose from Jacob's "delayed obedience"?
 - d. *What are some areas in your life that this message has prompted you to look at your "partial or delayed obedience" to God's word or plan for your life?*

Read Genesis 34:1-12

1. Why do you think Jacob might have chosen to settle in Succoth?
2. What can be inferred about Jacob's spiritual leadership of his family from this event?
3. How would you characterize Hamor's and Shechem's offer to Jacob? What was their motivation and goal?
4. What was the problem that Jacob should have addressed with Hamor's and Shechem's plan?
 - e. How would you handle this type of situation?

Read Genesis 34:13-31

5. Why do you think Jacob allowed his sons to take over in responding to Shechem and Hamor?
6. What did Jacob's later response to his son's actions reveal about his priorities and values?
 - a. *What truths do you see about the dangers of taking revenge on someone who has done you harm? Read Ephesians 4:25-27 and 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. What do these verses teach us about Reconciliation and Revenge?*
7. Read the first 3 words in Genesis 35:1. What does this teach us about God's faithfulness to accomplish His will in the life of Jacob?